

**DODGE COUNTY  
LAND CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING  
127 EAST OAK STREET  
JUNEAU, WI 53039  
MARCH 28, 2016**

The Dodge County Land Conservation Committee (LCC) met on March 28, 2016 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3A of the Dodge County Administration Building.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Ed Nelson at 8:30 AM with the following members present: Ed Nelson, Dale Macheel, Gerald Adelmeyer, Larry Bischoff, Bill Foley, Howard Kriewald, and Bill Muche.

**Other Dodge County Board Members, Dodge County Staff and Agency Advisors Present:** Marc Bethke, Dodge County Land Conservation Department (LCD); Jim Mielke, Dodge County Administrator; Lisa Derr, Dodge County Board; Ashley Nummerdor, Dodge County USDA-Farm Services Agency (FSA).

**Others Present:** Jim Zahn, Dodge County Nonpoint Runoff Work Group Co-Chair.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND PERMIT CHAIR TO DEVIATE FROM AGENDA TO EFFICIENTLY CONDUCT MEETING:** Motion by Muche to approve the agenda and to permit the Chair to deviate from the agenda to efficiently conduct the meeting, seconded by Kriewald. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion by Kriewald to approve the minutes of February 22, 2016 as sent by mail; seconded by Bischoff. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC APPEARANCES/COMMENTS:** There were no public appearances/comments.

**AGENCY ADVISOR REPORTS:** There were no agency advisor reports.

**REVIEW OF BILLS AND REVENUE:** The committee reviewed bills and revenues as shown on the attached listing.

**CONSIDERATION OF NEW AND REVISED CONSERVATION PLANS:** There were no conservation plans for consideration.

**REPORT FROM NONPOINT RUNOFF WORK GROUP MEETINGS OF MARCH 8 AND 22, 2016:** Co-Chair Jim Zahn updated the committee on progress being made by the ad hoc Dodge County Nonpoint Runoff Work Group at recent meetings held on March 8 and March 22, 2016. The work group continues to discuss priority issues, and is currently developing goals and objectives for the work group. Mr. Zahn indicated that he would like to see the work group continue to meet monthly, even during the spring planting season.

**CONSIDER USDA-FARM SERVICES AGENCY "BRIDGES TO OPPORTUNITY" INITIATIVE:** Ashley Nummerdor of the Dodge County USDA-FSA office explained the "Bridges to Opportunity" initiative being promoted by the USDA-FSA. The main purpose of the program is to provide an easier and faster way to connect farm producers with other government agencies as well as non-government organizations to meet various needs on farms. The Dodge County FSA is asking the Dodge County Land Conservation Committee to be a "Bridges Partner". Motion by Nelson to authorize the Dodge County Land Conservation Committee to become a partner with the Dodge County USDA-FSA office in the "Bridges to Opportunity" initiative; seconded by Bischoff. Motion carried.

**CONSIDER FARMLAND PRESERVATION PROGRAM ISSUES: 2016 & 2017 FPP SERVICE FEES AND LATE FEES; FPP PARTICIPATION LEVELS; AND CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE NUMBERING SYSTEM:** Marc Bethke explained that the committee needs to begin considering any changes

to the FPP service fee for 2017. Expenses will be up, and state revenue will be down, and this may require some increase for 2017 and beyond. Marc Bethke also shared statistical information showing the decline in Farmland Preservation Program participation since 1999. Total participants have decrease from 950 in 1999 to about 550 in 2015. However, it appears that participation has leveled off over the past 2-3 years at around 550 to 560 participants. Finally, Marc Bethke explained that the state Department of Revenue and Agriculture have developed the framework for a numbering system for Certificates of Compliance. Each county will be required to develop and implement a unique numbering system for all Certificates of Compliance prior to the end of 2016.

**CONSIDER FUTURE CONSERVATION RESERVE ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (CREP) ISSUES:** Marc Bethke reported that 15-year agreements signed since 2000 under the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) will begin expiring in 2016, and landowners will have the option to renew their contracts. There are only four (4) contracts expiring in 2016, but there will likely be a substantial work in 2017, with 30 contracts set to expire. This will be an on-going workload for at least the next 15 years.

**REPORTS FROM MARCH 2-4, 2016 WLWCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE:** Dale Macheel and Ed Nelson reported on sessions that they attended at the Wisconsin Land & Water Conservation Association annual conference in Sheboygan County on March 2-4, 2016. Breakout sessions attended included sessions on No-Till, EPA's Nine Key Element Plans, Manure Irrigation, Farmer Led Watershed Projects, Parliamentary Procedures, Cover Crops, Water Table Mapping, and the Clean Water Act. A resolution aimed at revising Wisconsin's fencing law was defeated.

**COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST MONTHLY REPORT: SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND ISSUES:** Marc Bethke presented the monthly County Conservationist's Report (see attached report).

**COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS:** Dale Macheel reported on issues discussed at the March 10, 2016 Fox Lake Inland Lake District Meeting, and Bill Muche reported on issues discussed at the March 8, 2016 Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Meeting. Bill Foley also reported on current issues being addressed by the Beaver Dam Lake Improvement Association.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Marc Bethke shared copies of a flyer describing the ten day long "Testing the Waters" canoe and educational trip down the Rock River sponsored by the Rock River Coalition from May 15 – May 25, 2016.

**PER DIEMS:** Motion by Nelson, seconded by Bischoff to approve the regular per diems, plus the following:

- Dale Macheel – Fox Lake Inland Lake District Meeting on March 10, 2016 – per diem and 22 miles.
- Dale Macheel – WLWCA Annual Conference on March 2-4, 2016 – per diem for each day, meals and lodging.
- Ed Nelson – WLWCA Annual Conference on March 2-4, 2016 – per diem for each day, meals and lodging
- Bill Muche – Lake Sinissippi Improvement District Meeting on March 8, 2016 – per diem and 15 miles

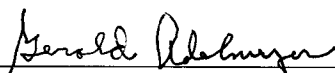
Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, April 25, 2016 beginning at 8:30 AM in Room 3A of the Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, Wisconsin.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before this committee, motion by Foley to adjourn at 10:30 AM, seconded by Kriewald. Motion carried.

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Ed Nelson, Chair

  
Gerald Adelmeyer, Secretary

**Disclaimer:** The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

**LAND CONSERVATION DEPARTMENT BILLS & REVENUE**

<b>(BILLS)</b>								
Robert Bird - January & February 2016 Expenses =								\$81.57
Joe's Auto Service - New Battery for 1999 Ford Explorer =								\$108.80
Marc Bethke - February Expenses =								\$69.44
John Bohonek - March Expenses =								\$176.00
<b>TOTAL BILLS =</b>								<b>\$435.81</b>
<b>(REVENUE)</b>								
Eight (8) Small Packet Tree Orders =								\$426.54
<b>TOTAL REVENUE =</b>								<b>\$426.54</b>

## **MARCH 2016 COUNTY CONSERVATIONIST REPORT**

### **SIGNIFICANT WORK ACTIVITIES AND MEETINGS:**

- Prepared for and attended Nonpoint Runoff Work Group Meetings on March 8 and March 22, 2016
- Continue to prepare for May 17, 2016 private well water testing program – met with and/or sent information to Towns of Leroy and Lomira
- Continue to work on securing data for insertion into Rock River TMDL Implementation Plan for Dodge County
- Actively assisted FPP participants with conservation compliance issues – prepared certificates of compliance as requested/needed
- Reviewed air photos for Town of Rubicon, Shields, Emmet and Lebanon to identify prospective projects and future contacts for soil erosion control and water quality protection work
- Met with Fox Lake Inland Lake District staff and consultant regarding various nonpoint runoff issues/concerns